

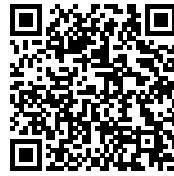


Gary Merchant

House of Representatives District
HD-04-SUL

Democrat

107 N Main St, Concord, NH 03301



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This legislator voted constitutionally on **50%** of the votes shown below.

★ Pro-liberty ✗ Anti-liberty ? Did not Vote **Vote**

- 1. HB367 Choice School Eligibility (Passed 187 to 184 on 3/9/2023).** Increases school choice eligibility from an annual household income equal to or less than 350 percent of the federal poverty guidelines at the time of application, which is up from 300 percent. **-- ?**

- 2. HB127 Governor's Powers (Passed 193 to 185 on 3/22/2023).** Reduces the governor's and courts' state of emergency declaration powers and length. **Yes ★**

- 3. HB229 Defend the Guard (Passed 187 to 182 on 1/4/2024).** Requires an official declaration of war for the activation of the New Hampshire national guard. **Yes ★**

- 4. HB224 Abortion Penalties (Passed 205 to 178 on 3/23/2023).** Repeals the criminal and civil penalties from the fetal life protection act. **Yes ✗**

- 5. SB152 Workforce Training Programs (Passed 250 to 123 on 5/4/2023).** Establishes a marine trades pathway at a regional career technology center based on workforce needs. **Yes ✗**

- 6. HB31 Weapon Ban Repeal (Passed 196 to 176 on 3/9/2023).** Repeals the prohibition, penalty, and exceptions relating to the carrying and possessing with intent to sell a black jack, slung shot, or metallic knuckles. **-- ?**



NEW HAMPSHIRE LEGISLATIVE
SCORECARD
BASED ON THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

Rep. Gary Merchant

Lifetime Score: 25%

NH Scorecard 2023

2023 Regular Session Score

The Legislative Scorecard is a nationwide educational program of The John Birch Society. Its purpose is to create an informed electorate on how state legislators are voting. The Scorecard is nonpartisan; it does not promote any candidate or political party. Bills are selected for their constitutional implications and cost to the taxpayers.

Please share this Scorecard in your district to inform people about your legislator's record on key votes.

U.S. Constitution, Amendment I --- 11 C.F.R. §114(4)(c)(4) --- 616 F.2d 45 (2d Cir. 1980)

The following scorecard lists several key votes in the New Hampshire Legislature in 2023 and ranks their State Senators and House Representatives based on their fidelity to (U.S.) constitutional and limited-government principles.



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The Constitution

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Bill Descriptions for the Votes that Affect You

1. School Choice Eligibility

HB367 increases the annual household income equal to or less than 350 percent of the federal poverty guidelines at the time of application, which is up from 300 percent for the education freedom account program.

The New Hampshire State House of Representatives passed HB367 on March 9, 2023 by a vote of 187 to 184. We have assigned pluses to the nays because all government money comes with strings attached. ESAs might sound good in theory, but they expand government involvement into all aspects of education — including homeschools and religious schools — and can potentially affect rules and curriculum. We encourage all parents to get their children out of the government school system and instead pursue sound alternatives such as homeschooling and patriotic private schools, where government funds are not involved.

2. Governor's Powers

HB127 reduces the governor's and courts' state of emergency declaration powers and length.

The New Hampshire State House of Representatives passed HB127 on March 22, 2023 by a vote of 193 to 185. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because our Founding Fathers believed that checks and balances in government are essential to keeping our elected officials in check with the Constitution and to prevent any unconstitutional government overreach, and this bill gets us closer to that. Article IV, Section 4, of the U.S. Constitution, requires a limitation and separation of powers.

3. Defend the Guard

HB229 requires an official declaration of war for the activation of the New Hampshire national guard.

The New Hampshire State House of Representatives passed HB229 on January 4, 2024 by a vote of 187 to 182. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because this would nullify unconstitutional federal deployments of the National Guard. A congressional declaration of war is constitutionally required to enter into a foreign conflict or for another constitutional reason, in accordance with Article I, Section 8, Clauses 11 and 15, of the U.S. Constitution.

4. Abortion Penalties

HB224 repeals the criminal and civil penalties from the fetal life protection act.

The New Hampshire State House of Representatives passed HB224 on March 23, 2023 by a vote of 205 to 178. We have assigned pluses to the nays because the right to life is the most fundamental, God-given, and unalienable right asserted in the Declaration of Independence and protected by the U.S. Constitution and HB224 violates that right. Furthermore, there should be a greater effort to provide specific protections for the right to life in compliance with the 4th, 5th, and 14th Amendments.

5. Workforce Training Programs

SB152 establishes a marine trades pathway at a regional career technology center based on workforce needs. It creates the non-lapsing Workforce Development and Innovation Fund to support career and technical education, funded by state appropriations, federal grants, and offshore wind lease auction proceeds. The Commissioner of Education can disburse funds following recommendations from the Offshore Wind Industry Workforce Training Center Committee. This committee focuses on the Gulf of Maine offshore wind industry's workforce needs and suggests training, facility planning, and funding use.

The New Hampshire State House of Representatives passed SB152 on May 4, 2023 by a vote of 250 to 123. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this is an unnecessary creation of a bureaucratic arm of government. Taxpayers are on the hook for a non-lapsing fund that should be taken care of by the free market. Additionally, this feeds into the globalist green energy movement, which is already heavily subsidized by taxpayers.

6. Weapon Ban Repeal

HB31 repeals the prohibition, penalty, and exceptions relating to the carrying and possessing with intent to sell a black jack, slung shot, or metallic knuckles.

The New Hampshire State House of Representatives passed HB31 on March 9, 2023 by a vote of 196 to 176. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because restricting people from owning anything, particularly a weapon, is a gross infringement of our rights. Any step to reduce Big Brother's oversight of the people is a good thing.